



# National Science Foundation

## *Excepted Position Vacancy*

**ANNOUNCEMENT NO:** E20010248

**OPEN:** 08/31/2001

**CLOSE:** 10/01/2001

**THIS IS A PERMANENT POSITION.**

**POSITION VACANT:** Social Scientist (Section Head - Issues Development), AD-101-4. Annual salary ranges from \$74,697 to \$116,414.

**PROMOTION POTENTIAL:** Social Scientist (Section Head - Issues Development), AD-101-4)

**LOCATION:** Office of the Director, Office of Legislative and Public Affairs, Issues Development Section, Arlington, VA.

**BARGAINING UNIT STATUS:** This position is excluded from the bargaining unit and will be filled in accordance with the Merit Promotion Plan described in NSF Manual 14 (PER II-100).

**AREA OF CONSIDERATION:** All Sources

### **THIS POSITION IS OUTSIDE THE COMPETITIVE CIVIL SERVICE**

Appointment to this position will be made under the Excepted Authority of the NSF Act. Candidates who do not have civil service status or reinstatement eligibility will not obtain civil service status if selected. Candidates currently in the competitive service will be required to waive competitive civil service rights if selected. Usual civil service benefits (retirement, health benefits, life insurance) are applicable for appointments of more than one year. Disabled veterans with 30% service-connected disabilities as well as other applicants with severe disabilities will be considered without regard to the closing date if applications are received prior to final selection.

**DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:** The Office of Legislative and Public Affairs (OLPA) is responsible for the management of the Foundation's relations with the Congress and for conducting programs that inform the public of the Foundation's activities. The Issues Development Section is the management section in OLPA that schedules and prepares public activities for the Director and Deputy Director of the Foundation. The incumbent of this position serves as a policy analyst and speechwriter. As an expert in the areas of science and technology, the incumbent's work is accomplished through preparation of relevant analyses, studies, speeches, testimony, and editorials that deal with a wide range of complex issues in a variety of forums and circumstances. As Section Head, Issues Development, the incumbent:

- Manages a portfolio of assignments which require selecting, analyzing, and articulating key policy issues. The portfolio includes speeches, position papers, policy briefs, testimony, analyses, editorials and similar documents for the Director and Deputy Director.
- Prepares defensible positions about objectives and value of major Foundation programs and policies in science and engineering and science and engineering education for the Director and Deputy Director.
- Identifies and articulates high-level national policy issues in science and engineering.

- Handles sensitive and confidential matters related to the NSF Director and Deputy Director, and to the agency's management, staffing, and grant making.
- Establishes and maintains liaison with academic institutions, associations, scientific and professional societies, other Federal agencies, and private industry interested in NSF policy issues.
- Plans and manages work of Issues Section personnel and coordinates the work of the Section with other elements of OLPA.
- Reports to and advises the Director of OLPA.

**QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED:** Applicants must possess a Ph.D. in a social science field **OR** have equivalent experience in the science and technology arena plus six or more years of successful research, research administration, and/or managerial experience pertinent to this position.

**QUALITY RANKING FACTORS:**

1. Expert knowledge of a wide range of science and technology policy.
2. Demonstrated skill in policy analysis.
3. Ability to compose and edit a variety of documents dealing with science and technology, including speeches, memoranda, and position papers to explain agency programs and policies to audiences with different levels of understanding and points of view.
4. Skill in establishing and maintaining working relationships with high-level officials as well as representatives from Federal agencies, and scientific/professional organizations.
5. Ability to lead, manage, supervise, train and motivate employees to sufficiently assign and review work and to oversee office activities.

**BASIS FOR RATING:** Final ranking is based on an evaluation of your experience, education and training as they relate to the knowledge, skills and abilities specified in the Quality Ranking Factors (QRF's). Current performance appraisal, letter(s) of recommendation, and awards may also be used in the evaluation process. **Applicants are highly encouraged to specifically address each QRF above.**

**CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT:** Appointment to the position is contingent upon successful completion of the appropriate background investigation. Satisfactory completion of a one-year trial period may also be required.

**HOW TO APPLY:** You may apply for this position with the *Optional Application for Federal Employment* (OF-612), the older *Application for Federal Employment* (SF-171), a resume, or other application format of your choice - so long as it contains the necessary information (summarized below). You must also submit a current Performance Appraisal or letter(s) of recommendation from professionals who can comment on your capabilities. In order to ensure full consideration, it is recommended that you submit a supplemental statement which specifically addresses how your background and experience relate to each Quality Ranking Factor listed on this announcement.

You must specify the job announcement number, and title and grade(s) of the job for which you are applying. You should also provide the following information: ♦ Your country of citizenship. ♦ Your social security number. ♦ Information about your education, including (1) high school graduation date and (2) college/university information - your major, and type and year of degree(s). If no degree, show total credits earned and indicate whether they are semester or quarter hours. ♦ Information about all your work experience related to this job, including job titles, duties and accomplishments, employer's name and phone

number, number of hours worked per week, starting and ending dates (month and year), and annual salary. If you held various positions with the same employer, describe each separately. ♦ If you have Federal civilian experience, indicate the highest grade held, the job series, and dates held. ♦ The brochure *Applying for a Federal Job* provides information on the Federal job application process; it is available by calling the number listed below. **If your application does not provide all the information requested in the vacancy announcement, you will not be considered.**

The National Science Foundation provides reasonable accommodations to applicants with disabilities on a case-by-case basis. If you need a reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and hiring process, please notify the point of contact listed on this vacancy announcement.

Submit all application material to National Science Foundation, Division of Human Resource Management, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Room 315, Arlington, VA 22230. Attn: Announcement Number E20010248. In addition to the required application materials, you are asked to complete and submit the attached Applicant Survey form. Submission of this form is voluntary and will not affect your application for employment. The information is used for statistical purposes only. **ALL FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE CLOSING DATE OF THIS ANNOUNCEMENT.** For additional information call Fred Person on (703) 292-4369. Hearing impaired individuals may call TDD (703) 292-8044.

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HIGHLY QUALIFIED STAFF THAT REFLECTS THE DIVERSITY OF OUR NATION**

**NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION  
APPLICANT SURVEY**

**OMB No. 3145-0096  
Expiration: August 2002**

Vacancy Ann. #: \_\_\_\_\_

Position Status (temporary/permanent): \_\_\_\_\_

Position Title/Series/Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

**INSTRUCTIONS**

Your completion of this form will be appreciated. Submission of this Information is voluntary and it will have no effect on the processing of your application. The data collected will be used only for statistical purposes to ensure that agency personnel practices meet the requirements of Federal law. Pursuant to 5 CFR 1320.5(b), an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to an information collection unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The OMB control number for this collection is 3145-0096. NSF estimates that each respondent should take about 3 minutes to complete this survey, including time to read the instructions. You may have comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this survey, including suggestions for reducing this burden. If so, please send them to NSF Reports Clearance Officer, Division of Administrative Services, NSF, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA. 22230.

**PRIVACY ACT INFORMATION**

**GENERAL** - This information is provided pursuant to Public Law 93-579 (Privacy Act of 1974), December 31, 1974, for individuals completing Federal records and forms that solicit personal information.

**AUTHORITY** - Section 7201 of title 5 of the U.S. Code and Section 2000e-16 of title 42 of the U.S. Code.

**PURPOSE AND ROUTINE USES**

The information is used for research and for a Federal Equal Opportunity Recruitment Program (FEORP) to help insure that agency personnel practices meet the requirements of Federal law. Address questions concerning this form and its uses to the Privacy Act Officer, National Science Foundation, Arlington, VA 22230.

1. Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Year of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

3. How did you learn about the particular position for which you are applying? (Circle appropriate number.)

01 - Newspaper (specify)

02 - Contact with NSF Personnel Office

(Agency Bulletin Board or other Announcement)

03 - NSF-initiated personal contact

04 - Science Magazine, or other professional journal or magazine

(specify)

05 - Affirmative Action Register

06 - Attendance at conference, meeting or job fair

(specify)

07 - NSF recruitment at school or college

08 - Colleague referral

09 - NSF Bulletin

10 - Federal, State or local job information center

11 - State vocational rehabilitation agency or

Veterans Administration

12 - State employment office

13 - School or college counselor or other official

14 - Private job Information service

15 - Private employment service

16 - Friend or relative working at NSF

17 - Friend or relative not working at NSF

18 - NSF website

19 - Internet or other website

20 - Other (specify)

4. Please select the racial/ethnic category with which you most closely identify yourself. (Circle the appropriate letter)

A. **American Indian or Alaskan Native.** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North America, who maintains cultural identification through tribal affiliation or community recognition.

B. **Asian or Pacific Islander.** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, the Indian subcontinent, or the Pacific Islands. This area includes, for example, China, India, Korea, the Philippine Islands, and Samoa.

C. **Black, not of Hispanic origin.** A person having origins in any of the Black racial groups of Africa. This does not include persons of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American, or other Spanish cultures or origins.

D. **Hispanic.** A person of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.

E. **White, not of Hispanic origin.** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, North Africa or the Middle East. This does not include persons of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American, or other Spanish cultures or origin.

5. Sex (Circle the appropriate letter.) F - Female M - Male

6. Please provide Information on your disability status by circling the appropriate category below:

1. I do not have a disability; 2. Hearing impairment; 3. Vision impairment; 4. Missing extremities; 5. Partial paralysis; 6. Complete paralysis; 7.

Convulsive disorder; 8. Mental retardation; 9. Mental or emotional illness; 10. Severe distortion of limbs and/or spine; 11. I have a disability but it is not listed.

**FOR AGENCY USE**

Agency Code: \_\_\_\_\_

**AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER**